Standing Committee's views:

Para 185 of the Report of the Committee on Archival Legislation dwelt mainly on the need to pursuade the owners of private records to deposit them with suitably equipped repositories. The suggestion referred to by Dr. Jha is contained in para 186 of the Report. It may be stated in this behalf, that the recommendations made by the above Committee (vide paras 176-87) of its Report were accepted in principle by the Government of India. (for reference please see statement on the action taken in respect of the recommendations of the Committee on Archival Legislation - Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings Volume XXXVIII, page 66).

(7) Resolution by Dr. Jata Shankar Jha

"That some suitable notice be taken by the Government of India in recognition of the meritorious services of the owners of private records."

Explanatory note:

The Government notice may be in the form of Certificate of merit, Tamarapatra, etc. It may be issued by the Director of National Archives of India, on behalf of the Government of India, to the owners of private archives cooperating most for the implementation of the resolutions of the Indian Historical Records Commission for preserving records under their custody and affording reasonable facilities for their use. The award of such certificates may be made on the recommendation of the State Regional Records Survey Committee concerned. Such a notice on the part of the Government of India is bound to arouse considerable interest among the owners of private archives.

Standing Committee's views:

This may be considered alongwith Resolution No.8 below:

(8) Resolution by Dr. Niralal Chatterjee

"Resolved that a system of cash rewards be introduced with immediate effect by the Commission themselves with a view to suitably rewarding persons or bodies attaining note-worthy success in the field of archival work. The prizes or cash rewards should be awarded on a competitive basis so as to inject a sense of competition among the different regional committees as also among individuals in different States".

Explanatory note:

How details

The Life Insurance Corporation have been following this practice for quite some years now and that with considerable success. We may profitably emulate them in a matter such as this and I feel more than confident that the proposal, if and when implemented, will be a big step towards gearing up the whole archival machinery and shall go a long way towards activating the whole organisation. In a country such as ours, the general level of archives-consciousness of the people is normally very low, and the proposed measure is likely to create more archives-consciousness among the people, and popularise it.

Standing Committee's views:

This proposal may be considered along with the proposal made by Dr. Jha for issuing certificates or Tamrapatras to owners of private records vide Resolution No.7. Tangible recognition of good work is desirable, but whether cash rewards would be desirable or effective has to be carefully considered.